

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, the applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are not rendered obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Accordingly, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. **If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues, or believes that some or all of the claims are not in condition for allowance, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned to schedule a telephone Examiner Interview before any further actions on the merits.**

The applicants will now address each of the issues raised in the outstanding Office Action.

Objections

Claims 1, 11, 20 and 29-31 are objected to because of a number of minor informalities. The applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this ground of objection in view of the following.

Since claims 1, 11, 20 and 30-31 have been amended based on the Examiner's helpful comments to overcome a number of minor informalities, the applicants respectfully request that these objections be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-5, 7, 8, 11-14, 16, 17, 20-23, 25, 26 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,771,896 ("the Tamura patent") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0071035 ("the Sobol publication"). The applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this ground of rejection in view of the following.

First, since claim 29 has been canceled, this ground of rejection is rendered moot with respect to this claim.

Independent claim 1 as amended, is not rendered unpatentable over the Tamura patent in view of the Sobol publication because the Tamura patent and the Sobol publication do not teach a digital camera wherein **a state of the camera's secondary battery can be displayed on a predetermined display unit**, under control of the control means of the digital camera, wherein **an image to be printed can be displayed on the predetermined display unit**, under control of the control means thereof, and **wherein the predetermined display unit is a liquid crystal monitor**. Support for the amendment to claim 1 is provided, for example, by Figure 1 (element 15), Figure 3 (Steps S4-S9, S17-S21, and S30-S31), Figures 6-13, and the corresponding description. Independent claims 11 and 20, as amended, are similarly not rendered obvious.

The Tamura patent merely discloses an electronic camera (100) having an image display section (18) for displaying a photographed subject to be printed, and a separate battery residual power display section (35) for

displaying a state of the electronic camera's battery. Hence, the Tamura patent has two different display devices -- one for displaying images (display 18) and the other for displaying battery residual power (display 35). The Tamura patent does not teach that the electronic camera (100) can display both an image and a battery state on its main image display section (18). The Tamura patent teaches a camera having another display section (35) for displaying a battery state and not capable of displaying image data. (See, e.g., Figures 9, and 11a-11c; col. 16, lines 53-63; col. 17, lines 45-56.)

The Sobol publication concerns a printer (100) having a holding portion (150) attached thereto adapted to receive an imaging device (200), wherein while the imaging device is located within the holding portion, the printer (100) provides power to the imaging device (200) to operate its processors and to recharge its batteries. (See the abstract and Figs. 1-3 of the Sobol publication.) The purported teachings of the Sobol publication do not compensate for the deficiencies of the Tamura patent with respect to claims 1, 11 and 20, as amended (discussed above), regardless of the purported scope of disclosure in the Sobol publication, and regardless of the absence or presence of an obvious reason to combine these references.

Accordingly, independent claims 1, 11 and 20 are not rendered unpatentable over the Tamura patent in view of the Sobol publication for at least the foregoing reason. Since claims 2-5, 7 and 8 directly or indirectly depend from independent claim 1, since claims 12-14, 16 and 17 directly or indirectly depend from independent claim 11, and claims 21-23, 25 and 26 directly or indirectly depend

from independent claim 20, these claims are similarly not rendered unpatentable over the Tamura patent in view of the Sobol publication.

Claims 10, 19 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Tamura patent in view of the Sobol publication, and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,163,132 ("the Higuchi patent"). The applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this ground of rejection in view of the following.

Claims 10, 19 and 28, depend on independent claims 1, 11, and 20, respectively. The purported teachings of the Sobol publication and the Higuchi patent would not compensate for the deficiencies of the Tamura patent with respect to claims 1, 11, and 20, as amended (discussed above), regardless of the purported scope of disclosure in the Sobol publication and the Higuchi patent, and regardless of the absence or presence of an obvious reason to combine these references. Consequently, claims 10, 19, and 28 are not rendered unpatentable by the cited references for at least this reason.

Claims 30 and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Tamura patent in view of the Sobol publication, and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,580,460 ("the Takahashi patent"). The applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this ground of rejection in view of the following.

Independent claims 30 and 31 have been amended similarly to claim 1 (discussed above). The purported

teachings of the Sobol publication and the Takahashi patent would not compensate for the deficiencies of the Tamura patent with respect to claims 30 and 31, as amended (for reasons similar to claim 1, discussed above), regardless of the purported scope of disclosure in the Sobol publication and the Takahashi patent, and regardless of the absence or presence of an obvious reason to combine these references. Consequently, independent claims 30 and 31, as amended, are not rendered unpatentable by the cited references for at least this reason.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6, 9, 15, 18, 24 and 27 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Since, claims 6, 9, 15, 18, 24 and 27 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim (before substantive amendments) and any intervening claims, the applicants respectfully submit that these claims are in condition for allowance.

Amendments to the Specification

The specification has been amended to correct a number of minor errors.

New Claims

New claim 32 corresponds to amended claim 6, but excludes the portion of claim 6 reciting "wherein the digital camera has a configuration wherein in the event that the digital camera and the printer are functionally connected one to another, a display is displayed on the predetermined display unit thereof for notifying the state of the secondary battery."

New claim 33 corresponds to amended claim 9, but excludes the portion of claim 9 reciting "and wherein the digital camera has a configuration wherein in the event that the digital camera and the printer are functionally connected one to another, a display is displayed on the predetermined display unit thereof for notifying the state of the secondary battery."

New claim 34 corresponds to amended claim 15, but excludes the portion of claim 15 reciting "and wherein the digital camera has a configuration wherein the information with regard to the state of the secondary battery detected and acquired by the battery monitoring circuit unit at the time of the start of the print system is displayed on the predetermined display unit under control of the control means thereof."

New claim 35 corresponds to claim 18, but excludes the portion of claim 13 reciting "and wherein the digital camera has a configuration wherein the information with regard to the state of the secondary battery detected and acquired by the battery monitoring circuit unit at the

time of the start of the print system is displayed on the predetermined display unit under control of the control means thereof."

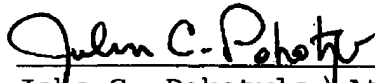
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the applicants request that the Examiner pass this application to issue.

Any arguments made in this amendment pertain **only** to the specific aspects of the invention **claimed**. Any claim amendments or cancellations, and any arguments, are made **without prejudice to, or disclaimer of**, the applicants' right to seek patent protection of any unclaimed (e.g., narrower, broader, different) subject matter, such as by way of a continuation or divisional patent application for example.

Respectfully submitted,

May 05, 2008

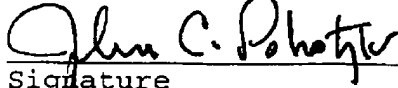

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